

## BLAND'S BOOM STRIKES A SNAG.

Religion of His Wife and Daughter May Wreck His Hopes.

His Fathers' Faith Will Not Prevent the Loss of Many Votes.

Teller Is Second Choice Now, and McLean Would Be His Running Mate.

is Nearly Put Out of the Race by Illinois Declaring for the Missouri Man.

VENBON LAUNCHES HIS BOOM.

Letter to Show He Was a Silver Man Way Back in 1878—Other Candidates Who Are Willing to Be Named.

By Julius Chambers.

Journal Convention Headquarters, Palmer House, Chicago, July 6.—Already it is almost agreed that the logical Democratic candidate, Richard P. Bland, cannot be nominated. This fact is only emphasized by the reception of the Illinois delegation to his support to-day. His manager admitted to me to-day that he had only 221 delegates that he was sure of, and that his hope of a choice on the first ballot would have to be abandoned.

The Thurman attack upon Bland, appealing as it does to the bigotry of a past generation, would injure the Missourian in the country at large in case of his nomination, but it will hurt his chances becoming the choice of many delegates who would have gone over to him. The P. A. feeling has already shown itself to-day.

When the history of this convention comes to be written calmly, the bigotry of the declaration that Bland must not be come the figurehead of a cause he has created because his wife and daughter are Catholics, will stand out as its humiliating feature. Puritanism of that character belongs to the seventeenth century. Curiously enough, Mr. Bland himself comes of a Presbyterian stock, dating far beyond the father prepared for the though ill-health prevented him from carrying out his heart's desire.

Defenceless Woman Attacked.

Doubtless this makes Bland's marriage of a Catholic the act of a renegade, but the attack is really made upon a defenceless woman. Behold the prophet of the free silver faith and the personal exemplar of freedom in religious opinion seated to-night at family hearth waiting for an honor to be done to him that might well make glad the heart of any man. It will mean to him adoption by millions of his fellow-citizens of views for which he has long labored and endured criticism and rebuke. By his side sits the wife and daughter, even more proud of his impending success than he, and filled with hopeful expectation that has made the destiny of a man.

This happy, hopeful pair came to-day to the strongest bond between them in this world has suddenly changed to a barrier that may never be overcome. If this is politics, it is indeed the dirtiest business in its history.

The second choice after Bland is undoubtedly Teller, rather than Boies. He is a millionaire, and if John R. McLean were put on the ticket with him two large barrels of money would be at the command of the campaign managers. Mr. McLean has said that he would accept second place with Teller, but with nobody else.

He does not want to put up the money for either Bland or Boies. Late to-night he is avowedly a candidate for the first place on the ticket, and by no means a chance to be overlooked by the farmer politicians, who are without the able leadership they sorely need.

Boies's Chances Grow Gloomy.

Declaring for Bland to-day the Illinois delegation has almost put ex-Governor Boies out of the race. Governor Claude Matthews has been "left at the post." He can hardly be included in the list among "others who ran."

Joe Blackburn, the "Blue Grass" entry, has been too nervous at the start, got away too quickly and will be quite blown before he gets on Wednesday.

J. Bryan was registered as a silver by the wildest silverites of his own and now that the Nebraska delegation is in a sea of trouble he will not give further assistance.

Vice-President Stevenson is writing letters for convention consumption, but he has been ignored by his home delegation Bland's favor. He must recant and go to the gold men of the East if he even wants to be formally nominated. As everyone predicted, they may go into nominating business about Wednesday. If they do, Adlai's name will be just good as anybody's with which to juggle. He is taken to be the beginning of the Benson Presidential boom. It was not strange, though coming rather late, and

the announcement of it caused a stir of great magnitude. Those of the Illinois delegation who are opposed to Bland's candidacy talk seriously of taking Stevenson up, and as a matter of compromise forcing him on the Bland faction. If the present neck-and-neck race of the candidates lasts, as it doubtless will, Stevenson's compromise candidacy is regarded as a strong probability.

His views on the silver question are strong enough to please the Western and Southern delegates, and it is assumed that the men disposed toward gold will consider him as the least objectionable of the silver candidates, and a fairly "safe" man. The plan among his "boomers" is to introduce him gradually to the convention by casting a very few votes for him at first and increasing the number gradually, and start a bolt for him when the Bland and Boies and other factions are beginning to weary.

Hill's Chance to Make Terms.

In a sentence, then, no man can be nominated without gold help, provided the gold men have the fortitude to stay in the convention and endure the bad eggs or dodge the deadlier missiles that will be hurled at them. If Senator David B. Hill isn't in a position to enjoy himself, he never was. By the end of the week, if he can prolong the torture to that time, he can make some terms that will repay him and his followers for their trouble.

Keep an eye on Hill.

Remember that even with the Illinois delegation out for him, Bland hasn't votes enough to make him the candidate. Even if the two-thirds rule be abrogated, 454 votes will be necessary to nominate if not one of the gold delegations leaves the hall.

Here arises a nice question of precedent. At the Charleston convention, it will be remembered, the rule was laid down that two-thirds of the entire number of delegates originally forming the convention were requisite; but only a few weeks later, at Baltimore, this doctrine was abandoned, and the precedent was established that two-thirds of the delegates in the hall and voting could name the party's standard bearer. This view, being the later of the two, would probably be entertained. I asked Senator Hill's opinion on this point to-day, and he coincided with that view. He admitted also that it offered another reason for serious thought before the gold delegates of the East decided to bolt.

If the friends of gold stay in the convention and the bitter rivalry between the friends of these candidates can be kept alive, Senator Hill's old guard can prevent the selection of anybody for a week to come. This fact has now become evident.

## OPENS UP A NEW ERA IN POLITICS.

Henry George Thinks the Land and Single Tax Questions Will Come to the Front After the Currency Issue Is Settled.

BY HENRY GEORGE.

Chicago, July 6.—The struggle that begins to-morrow engrosses all political attention, but when and how the inevitable break will take place is no clearer than it was three days ago. On both sides are those who wish to hasten it and those who would fain delay, or at least throw responsibility on their opponents. Bland still leads on the silver side, and the discovery that Mrs. Bland is a Catholic does not seem to have lessened his chances.

But no concentration on him has been had, and the hopes of minor candidates and of "dark horses," skillfully fanned by the opposition, will prevent any attempt to set aside the time-honored two-thirds rule. Both sides have, however, been growing more bitter and more desirous of a break, and the inevitable divergence of the two elements will show itself with the opening of the convention to-morrow, and probably reach final expression with the report of the Committee on Credentials. The great importance of this convention is, however, not in what it will do as in what it will open. Its declaration for free silver at a ratio of 16 to 1 is certain, but the strength of this idea in the minds of those who are going to force it on the Democratic party lies really not so much in the belief that it will settle the currency question, or any other question, as in the belief that it will begin a new era in our politics. Thus what the varying elements that make up the free silver majority are really looking to is a more interesting matter than how they will vote in the convention.

Among those whom I would call silver men proper, to distinguish them from those who are joining in the movement as the best way of breaking political lines, the effect feared in the East of a sharp and large depreciation of the currency is little considered. They think, indeed, that the free opening of the mints to silver will bring about a parity between the two metals by increasing the value of silver. They argue that the demonetization of silver has lessened its value by lessening the demand for its use, and that if it is restored again to use as money its value will increase. But if you point out to them that the people of this country have really no use for silver as money, except for small change, and that some five hundred millions of silver money or the material for making it is now lying idle in the vaults of the Treasury, you may get at their real thought. They do not suppose that the silver that is to be coined into dollars under the proposed free-silver act is to be actually used as money, but that paper money is to be issued against the deposit of silver. The way in which they expect the value of silver to increase is by the United States Government paying for all the silver that is offered it at the rate of sixteen to one in Government money, and taking it out of the market by hoarding it in vaults. Thus free silver means really an unlimited Sherman act for the purchase of silver at a fixed ratio.

The utter absurdity of digging metal out of certain holes in the ground wherein it is found in order to store it away in other holes in the ground where it can be of no greater use to humanity than if left in its natural condition is not clearly apparent to the gold men, who have become accustomed to regard such a storage of a hundred millions or more of gold as the price we must pay for a stable currency.

But it is clearly apparent to the greenbackers, who are very numerous among the silver advocates, and if you ask a free silver man of this kind why it would not be better and cheaper to issue the needed paper money directly and save the expense of digging out silver to store it away again, he will readily confess that he really thinks the best and most economical money is a gold certificate or a silver certificate can rest, and that he is for the present supporting the free silver movement in the belief that it will ultimately bring us to that kind of money. These men say, and some of the gold men say so, too, that the interconvertible bond plan to which Tom L. Johnson, of Ohio, has called attention in a letter sent to each of the delegates, is really the final solution of the currency question, but in this convention the fight is between gold and silver, and must be fought to a finish.

Underneath the silver agitation that has gone on so rapidly and widely in the West, more important questions than that of currency have also, it is evident, been pushing their way. The recent Democratic convention of Illinois, which sends a solid free silver delegation, also adopted a declaration in favor of local option in taxation, and the report of the Illinois State Bureau of Labor Statistics is probably the most effective single tax document yet issued officially. It is attracting much attention and is being so widely called for that the first edition is exhausted and twenty thousand more have been printed, while it is proposed as a Democratic campaign document to sow it broadcast through the State before election.

The "Patriots of America" is a secret association started by W. H. Harvey, the author of "Coin's Financial School," which is having such a mushroom growth through the West that it is said to already have more than one hundred and thirty branches in Illinois alone, one of which—that at Galesburg—has seven hundred members. Its first object is the pushing of the silver question on Coin's lines, but as the first of the other great public questions which must be taken up after that, it ranks the land question, its position being that of the bitterest opposition to land monopoly. The land question, indeed, seems to lie directly underneath the agitation of the silver question. Of the twelve officials of the Peoria Free Silver Club, all but one are avowed single taxers.

## HILL NAMED OVER DANIEL.

Choice of the National Committee for Temporary Chairman.

The Free Silver Candidate Was Defeated by Only Four Votes.

Fighting Will Be Continued To-day on the Floor of the Convention.

Michigan's Gold Delegates Were Seated with but One Vote Cast Against Them.

BRYAN'S FOLLOWERS TURNED OUT.

Yellow Metal Men from Nebraska, Who Boasted His Convention, Given the Right to Vote—Chairman Harry Ruffled.

Journal Convention Headquarters, Palmer House, Chicago, July 6.—As soon as the Convention is called to order to-morrow the fight will begin between gold and silver. The gold men to-day controlled the National Committee by the slender minority of four votes.

Senator David B. Hill, of New York, got twenty-seven votes and Senator John W. Daniel, of Virginia, got twenty-three votes for temporary chairman of the convention. The minority announced that they would present Senator Daniel's name, and Chairman Harry said he would put their substitute to a vote. Then the issue will be joined and the fight will be under way.

It was a much briefer meeting of the National Committee than that which the Republicans held at St. Louis. The committee went into session at noon and at 5:30 p. m. had terminated the preliminary convention business. There was little discussion on any questions that came up, and very little acrimony displayed until the close, when Mr. Harry, the presiding officer, grew somewhat heated by reason

of a statement made by Committeeman Thomas, of Colorado.

The First Test Vote Taken.

It was after Senator Hill had been declared the choice of the committee for temporary chairman that Mr. Thomas inquired if Chairman Harry would entertain a minority report at the opening of the Convention. Harry was disposed to resent the imputation on his fairness, and made a warm reply.

The silver and gold men exhibited their strength first on the proposition to seat the gold delegation from Nebraska. It was seated by a vote of 27 in favor of the contestants, as against 23 for the regular silver delegation. Louisiana did not vote on this or other matters before the committee.

After all of the business of a routine nature had been dispatched, Mr. Sheehan, of New York, moved that the committee proceed with the selection of a temporary chairman of the Convention. The proposition met with unanimous favor, and Mr. Sheehan, succeeding himself on the floor, presented the name of David B. Hill. H. D. Clayton, of Alabama, named Senator John W. Daniel to represent the silver interests. There was no discussion of candidates and the nominations were closed.

The result of the roll-call was as follows:

States.	Committeemen.	Hill.	1st.
Alabama.....	Henry D. Clayton.....	1	1
Arkansas.....	U. M. Rose.....	1	1
California.....	M. F. Tarpey.....	1	1
Colorado.....	Charles S. Thomas.....	1	1
Connecticut.....	Charles French.....	1	1
Delaware.....	Louis C. Vandegriff.....	1	1
Florida.....	Samuel Pascoe.....	1	1
Georgia.....	Clark Howell, Jr.....	1	1
Idaho.....	Frank W. Beane.....	1	1
Illinois.....	Simon P. Sherill.....	1	1
Indiana.....	Simon P. Sherill.....	1	1
Iowa.....	J. J. Richardson.....	1	1
Kansas.....	Charles W. Blair.....	1	1
Kentucky.....	Thomas H. Sherley.....	1	1
Louisiana.....	James Jeffries.....	1	1
Maine.....	Arthur Sewall.....	1	1
Maryland.....	V. Buchanan (proxy).....	1	1
Massachusetts.....	Joshua Quincy.....	1	1
Michigan.....	D. J. Campan.....	1	1
Minnesota.....	Michael Doran.....	1	1
Missouri.....	John G. Frather.....	1	1
Mississippi.....	Charles P. Howry.....	1	1
Montana.....	A. T. Davidson.....	1	1
Nebraska.....	Thomas C. Lathrop.....	1	1
Nevada.....	O. Clark Howell.....	1	1
New Hampshire.....	A. W. Bullock.....	1	1
New Jersey.....	William F. Sheehan.....	1	1
New York.....	David B. Hill.....	1	1
North Carolina.....	F. H. Busby.....	1	1
North Dakota.....	William C. Lathrop.....	1	1
Ohio.....	G. Gililand (proxy).....	1	1
Oregon.....	E. D. McKee.....	1	1
Pennsylvania.....	William F. Harry.....	1	1
Rhode Island.....	Samuel R. Honey.....	1	1
South Carolina.....	M. L. Donaldson.....	1	1
South Dakota.....	James M. Woods.....	1	1
Tennessee.....	John C. Cummins.....	1	1
Texas.....	O. T. Holt.....	1	1
Vermont.....	Bradley B. Smalley.....	1	1
Virginia.....	J. Taylor Ellison.....	1	1
Washington.....	Q. C. Wallace.....	1	1
West Virginia.....	John Sheridan.....	1	1
Wisconsin.....	W. C. Vilas (proxy).....	1	1
Wyoming.....	W. L. Keykandall.....	1	1
Utah.....	J. W. Burton (proxy).....	1	1
Alaska.....	A. L. Delaney.....	1	1
Arizona.....	Charles M. Shannon.....	1	1
Dist. of Columbia.....	James L. Norris.....	1	1
New Mexico.....	H. B. Ferguson.....	1	1
Oklahoma.....	T. M. Richardson.....	1	1
Indian Territory.....	Robert L. Owen.....	1	1
Totals.....		27	23

The first contest which came before the committee was that in the Seventh Indiana District, where John T. Frensell, a silver contestant, of Indianapolis, was given the seat in place of Charles E. Cooper, the delegate whose financial convictions are of a pronounced yellow. There was little discussion of the claims of either. They simply filed their papers and let the committee do the rest. The vote seating Frensell was viva voce, and the ayes so generally prevailed that there was no call for a record of the vote.

Bryan's Followers Unseated.

Then came the Nebraska case, in which Euclid Martin presented the claims of the gold delegation, the members of which walked out of the State convention when it became apparent to them that Bryan was in control. Mr. Martin gave at length the arguments of his side, and the regular delegates simply offered their credentials and a brief account of the doings of the convention. The vote seating the gold delegates was identical with that given 'alove, which elected Hill. Mr. Bryan will discuss the case further in the convention to-morrow, and the prevailing judgment is that the gold men will hold their seats only until such time as they can be legally and properly thrown out by the whole convention. In discussing the result later, Mr. Martin said:

"I was glad to get the victory over Bryan, who has conducted the Democratic party in Nebraska to ruin. Through his indefatigable efforts he has reduced the vote of the party from 71,000 in 1890 to 28,000 on two Democratic tickets, a regular and a split, in 1896. I have devoted some time to figuring out how long it would require for the Democracy of Nebraska to be wholly obliterated from the political map if we were to permit Bryan to continue in command. It is about time to retire the boy orator and I think we will do it."

The Michigan contest was decided in favor of Don M. Dickinson's gold delegation. The gold men undertook, if given the right to vote, that they would confine their efforts to an attempt to declare for a gold standard in the platform, and that then the delegates would be permitted to vote as they pleased for President.

One Silver Man Stood Out.

When the case came before the committee it was moved by Charles S. Thomas, of Colorado, one of the most pronounced silver agitators in Chicago, to seat the regular delegation. This was carried by a vote of 47 to 1. The only man who voted against the proposition was the National Committeeman from Michigan. He is a silver man, and prior to recording his convictions by his vote filed with the committee several pages of typewritten reasons



THE POSTER SHOW AT THE PALMER HOUSE.